

**RESPONSE AND REMARKS**

Claims 7-27, 34-48, and 53-57 have been cancelled. Amendments to Claims 1-6, 28-33, and 49-52 are filed concurrently herewith to more distinctly claim the invention. Claim 58 remains in the application as previously presented. New Claims 59-65 have been added. Entry of the amendments, and reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

**SPECIFICATION**

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner objected to use of various trademarks as used in the specification and indicated that the trademarks should be capitalized wherever they appear. Responsive to the Examiner's objections to the use of trademarks, further amendments to the specification are resubmitted herewith. The further amendments to the specification identify trademarks used in the specification, reference the proprietary nature of those trademarks through the use of the "TM" symbol, and equate the TM-designated trademark with both an all-capitalized version of the trademark and with alternative ways in which the trademarks appear in the specification.

In addition, further Amendments to the specification are submitted herewith to make minor corrections to the specification, such as indicating reference numbers present in the drawings, and other minor corrections. No new matter is added as a result of the amendments to the specification.

**SECTION 103**

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner renewed the previous rejection of the claims, rejecting Claims 1-27 and 49-58 under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nicholls et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,485,369; "Nicholls") in view of Fisher et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,047,264; "Fisher") and Kara et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,233,568; "Kara"); the Examiner renewed the rejection of Claims 28-48

under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nicholls in view of Pauly et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,958,280; "Pauly") and Kara.

The Examiner's rejections of the Claims have been carefully considered. Amendments to Claims 1-6, 28-33, and 49-52 are filed concurrently herewith to more distinctly claim the invention. Claims 7-27, 34-48, and 53-57 have been cancelled. Claim 58 remains in the application as previously presented. New Claims 59-65 have been added.

For the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that combination of the Nicholls, Fisher and Kara references does not disclose or suggest the amended Claims of the present application.

Independent Claims 1 and 28 have been amended to recite "a respective simultaneous identification of charges for each delivery service offered by each carrier of a plurality of carriers that would provide [electronic mail (Claim 1), or verbal delivery (Claim 28)], for shipping the respective particular parcel ...". Claims 49 and 52 have been amended to recite "a [ ] simultaneous identification of each delivery service offered by each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers that would provide the [ ] delivery notification service options ... for shipping the respective parcel ...". Claim 58 recites "identifying ... a first carrier that would offer an electronic mail delivery notification service in conjunction with performing at [ ] least one delivery service, and ... identifying ... a second carrier that would offer an electronic mail delivery notification service in conjunction with performing ... at least one delivery service ..."

As compared to displaying a simultaneous identification of delivery services offered by each carrier of a plurality of carriers, or a respective simultaneous identification of charges for each delivery service offered by each carrier of a plurality of carriers, that would provide the delivery notification service option for shipping a parcel (as claimed in one way or another in amended independent Claims 1, 28, 49, 51, and 52), Kara discloses a "program [that] automatically calculates the [shipping] fees for each shipping service provider offering service *commensurate with the desired shipping and/or delivery parameters.*" Kara, col. 22, lines 39 – 42 (emphasis added). Therefore,

according to Kara, a user of Kara must first indicate the desired shipping and/or delivery parameters (e.g., Overnight, or Same Day, or Next Day, or 2-Day, or 3-Day) so that the Kara "program [will] automatically calculate[ ] the [shipping] fees for each shipping service provider offering service *commensurate with the desired shipping and/or delivery parameters.*" Kara, col. 22, lines 39 – 42 (emphasis added). That is, only once a user has indicated a desired type of delivery service (referred to as an "urgency" in Kara), will the Kara program calculate the shipping rate for each carrier that supports the desired delivery service.

Importantly, as can be seen in FIG. 8 of Kara, only one rate per carrier would be displayed. Accordingly, where a carrier has more than one service (e.g., UPS® Next Day Air Early A.M., UPS® Next Day Air, UPS® 2nd Day Air A.M.), Kara provides no disclosure for a simultaneous identification of services, or a simultaneous display of charges for each service of each respective carrier that would support a particular delivery service notification option, or that would support a plurality of delivery service notification options.

Even assuming that Kara in combination with the other cited references, provided for delivery notification option selection, and even assuming that Kara in combination with the other cited references would consider a selection of a delivery notification option in its rate calculations, it is respectfully submitted that Kara in combination with the other cited references would not provide a simultaneous identification of delivery services and carriers that would provide such delivery notification options and/or a simultaneous identification of charges by each delivery service offered by each carrier that would provide such delivery notification options.

As compared to, e.g., amended independent Claims 1, 28, 49, and 52 of the present application, in order to obtain a simultaneous identification of charges for, or a simultaneous identification of services and carriers that would provide, a particular delivery notification service, or a plurality of delivery notification services, using Kara, it is respectfully submitted that a user would need to make successive passes through the Kara system to obtain a comparison. For

example, a user could first indicate a first "urgency", e.g., "Overnight" on FIG. 8 of Kara, so that the Kara system would, according to the specification of Kara (e.g., Kara, col. 22, lines 39 – 42), calculate the rates for the shipping service providers (depicted in FIG. 8 of Kara as "US Post", "Federal Express", "DHL", "UPS", "Purolator", and "Emery") via the indicated first "urgency". Once the system had calculated the rates, the user could, for example, write the rates, or print the screen showing the rates, for the first indicated "urgency".

Next, in order to obtain a comparison of charges using Kara, a user of Kara would need to indicate a second "urgency", e.g., "Next day" on FIG. 8 of Kara, so that the Kara system would, according to the specification of Kara (e.g., Kara, col. 22, lines 39 – 42), calculate the rates for the shipping service providers (depicted in FIG. 8 of Kara as "US Post", "Federal Express", "DHL", "UPS", "Purolator", and "Emery") via the indicated second "urgency". Once the system had calculated the rates, the user could, for example, write the rates, or print the screen showing the rates, for the second indicated "urgency".

The user would need to continue to indicate each successive "urgency", to cause the Kara system to calculate rates for each successive indicated urgency for each shipping service provider; the Kara user would need to then write the rates, or print the screen showing the rates, for each successive "urgency".

Only when a Kara user had completed the process of indicating each successive "urgency", obtaining the rates, and writing the rates or printing the screens, would the Kara user have a cross-comparison of rates and/or a cross-comparison of services and carriers that would provide a selected delivery service option. However, having gone through such a process, the Kara user would have only a paper record, and would still not have a simultaneous display or identification of rates, or services and carriers as claimed in one way or another in the Claims of the present application, e.g., in Claims 1, 28, 49, 51, 52 and 58.

New Claims 59 through 65 are directed to sending an e-mail notification to a user confirming delivery of a parcel. New Independent Claim 59 is directed to allowing the user to specify a first e-mail address and a second e-mail address to

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which email notification is to be sent confirming delivery. It is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not disclose or suggest allowing a user to specify a first e-mail address and a second e-mail address to which email notification is to be sent confirming delivery. New Independent Claim 64 is directed to allowing a user to provide a customized message to be included in an e-mail confirming delivery of a parcel. It is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not disclose or suggest allowing a user to provide a customized message to be included in an e-mail confirming delivery of a parcel

For the foregoing reasons and for the reasons previously given, because independent Claims 1, 28, 49-52, 58, 59 and 64 are patentable over the cited references, it is respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 2 through 6, 29 through 33, 60-63 and 65 are therefore also patentable over the cited references.

In view of the foregoing reasons and for the reasons previously given, it is respectfully submitted that the invention disclosed and claimed in the present amended application is not fairly taught by any of the references of record, taken either alone or in combination, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the present application be reconsidered and allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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